

CLAIMS

1 Claim 15. For use as a structural member for a bed supporting frame for
2 a trailer, a side structural member comprising:
3 an elongated body having a predetermined length, and first and second
4 ends;
5 said elongated body along its predetermined length having
6 an upper portion extending upwardly from said load supporting surface, an
7 outer surface and an inner surface, said upper portion including an upper
8 channel;
9 a face portion coupled at its upper extremity to said upper portion, and
10 having a first lower extremity;
11 an elongated retention channel coupled at said inner surface substantially at
12 the level of a trailer bed, said elongated retention channel having a first
13 predetermined channel shape, with a retention channel opening upwardly; and
14 an inner member having its upper extremity coupled to said elongated
15 retention channel and having a second lower extremity.

1 Claim 16. A side structural member as in Claim 15, and further including
2 a lower channel structure coupled to said first lower extremity and to said
3 second lower extremity, said lower channel structure having a second
4 predetermined shape including a mounting structure with a mounting channel
5 opening downwardly, said lower channel structure including oppositely disposed
6 ridged mounting surfaces.

1 Claim 17. A side structural member as in Claim 16, and further including
2 a slidable axle support member having a predetermined length, a thickness
3 dimension, one or more threaded holes through said thickness dimension, and
4 oppositely disposed engaging structures having predetermined shapes to mate
5 with and slidably engage said oppositely disposed ridged mounting surfaces:

1 Claim 18. A side structural member as in Claim 17, wherein said side
2 structural member is integrally formed from extruded non-corrosive metal.

1 Claim 19. A side structural member as in Claim 17, and further including
2 a fender mounting bracket adapted to be mounted to said side structural
3 member in a predetermined relationship with an associated wheel, said fender
4 mounting bracket including an upper extension having an upper edge engaged and
5 retained by said upper channel, a middle portion in contact with an associated said
6 face portion, and a lower portion at a predetermined angle to said middle portion
7 capable of being arranged below an associated slidable axle support member and
8 adapted to be affixed thereto.

1 Claim 20. A tilt-bed trailer as in Claim 19, and further including
2 a pair of fender supports mounted to said fender mounting bracket, each of
3 said fender supports having a predetermined length and a captive nut retaining
4 channel extending along said predetermined length to slidably engage one or more
5 captive nuts along said length to cooperate with one or more fender mounting
6 bolts to mount an associated fender.